

COMIC SHOP NEWS™

1214



Days Missing: Kestus



BRUCE WAYNE
THE ROAD HOME

THE SHADOW OF THE BAT FALLS OVER BATMAN'S FRIENDS & FOES!

8 DIFFERENT ONE-SHOTS



BATMAN & ROBIN
Nicieza & Richards



CATWOMAN
Fridolfs & Nguyen



RED ROBIN
Nicieza & Bachs



**COMMISSIONER
GORDON**
Beechen & Kudranski



BATGIRL
Miller & Perez



ORACLE
Andreyko & Padilla



OUTSIDERS
Barr & Saltares



RA'S AL GHUL
Nicieza & McDaniel

OCTOBER 2010

dcomics.com

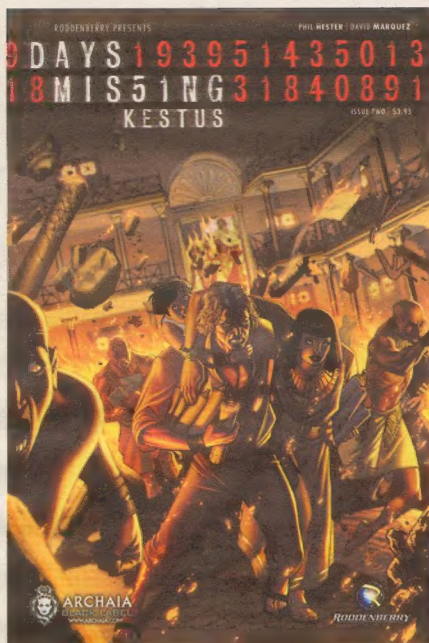
Comics are populated by a virtual army of time travellers, some of whom have been known to alter history when necessary. But the Steward is different—he doesn't travel through time, and he doesn't change history. What he does, though, is equally as impressive as impressive: he "folds" days.

The Steward was initially introduced in Archaia's *Days Missing*, a series produced in conjunction with Roddenberry Productions. The series proved so successful that Archaia and Roddenberry are revisiting the Steward's world in the new limited series *Days Missing: Kestus*.

"The Steward has, as far as he knows, existed from the dawn of time, and has taken it upon himself to shepherd humanity into a fruitful future, writer Phil Hester explained regarding the central character of *Days Missing* and its upcoming sequel *Days Missing: Kestus*. "He observes mankind, and when he feels he must interfere, he rights the ship, but in order to let us believe we are making our own progress, he 'folds' the day, basically rewinding the previous 24 hours, removing it from our collective memory.

"Now, we're introducing Kestus, a being that operates on the same level as The Steward—which is both thrilling and frightening to him. As far as he knows, he's one of a kind, but when he meets the immortal Kestus, all that gets turned upside down."

"Obviously, the point of the second series is to explore the relationship between the Steward and Kestus," Roddenberry Productions COO and *Days Missing* creator Trevor Roth continued. "That said, what I can tell you of her and her powers is that Kestus is the first being who sits on the same level as The Steward. She is The Steward's first chance of companionship and her introduction represents both the best and the worst thing that could ever have happened to him. While her powers—if you want to call them that—might differ from those of The Steward, the unmistakable similarities between them are equally as gripping a story."



potential—it can span all eras, all places. How does this second series take advantage of the epic nature of the concept? "First, thank you! Second, I couldn't agree more," Roth said. "*Days Missing* affords us an extremely large playground within which to create and tell stories—the entirety of human history (and possibly beyond). It's something that we've really been able to embrace in the second series. As opposed to introducing a character through the stories of random days, as we did in the first series, *Days Missing: Kestus* has much more of through-story. The tale of The Steward and Kestus is truly told through an epic chronology of their interactions through history. It's got a very different, but equally unique feel to it."

While the series focuses on two incredible beings possessed of superhuman abilities, Hester feels that it's very important to keep it rooted in our real world. "Trevor feels it's vitally important to ground The Steward's adventures in known history, and I agree," Hester said. "When you have pretty outrageous concepts flying around in your comic, as we often do with *Days Missing*, tying them to specific and recognizable days in history help the reader relate to the action. Besides, that's sort of the theme of the book—that we have a hidden history lurking behind us. Changing days no one has any memory of blunts the impact."

What makes *Days Missing* so creatively appealing to Hester? "Probably the same thing that drives our artist, David Marquez, crazy," Hester said. "We get to change locales and eras with each and every story. For example, the first issue takes place in ancient China, the second during Caesar's siege of Alexandria, the third during the height of the Cold War, etc. So, the story always stays fresh and interesting. I can create supporting characters with rich backstories and challenge myself to imply that richness in just a few pages. It's a fun exercise—and I hope reading it will be, too."

In spite of the book's artistic demands, Marquez is having a great time with *Days Missing*. "Working with Phil is a real

Days of Future Passed

"I think I'm safe in saying she's an immortal being much like The Steward, but not sharing his humanitarian bent," Hester added. "I'm not saying she's evil or anything, but she does not view humanity in terms of our potential, but rather in terms of our weaknesses. This puts her at odds with The Steward on occasion. Yet she and The Steward have an innate attraction to one another."

How does the existence of Kestus change The Steward's world? "Perhaps the best way to answer is to ask an analogous question, 'If you are the only one of your kind, if have lived

longer than any animal in the world, and if you encounter another being who shares your experience, what would that change for you?" Roth replied. "My guess is *everything*. The emergence of Kestus is a game-changer for The Steward. Regardless of how their story ends, I can promise that he will never be the same again."

Have the two ever crossed paths before in one or more days now missing from the historical chronicle? "In order to keep true to the concept of *Days Missing*, it was important to make sure that the relationship between The Steward and Kestus played out within the structure we had already set forth—days throughout history that have been eradicated from human history," Roth said. "In doing so, we found ourselves compelled to tell the story through a continuum of missing days within which Kestus and The Steward connected. From that standpoint, I guess the answer to your question could be 'yes.'"

"Much like Catwoman, sometimes she's a villain and sometimes she's an ally," Hester explained. "Since she's been alive from the dawn of time, her views can change over the eons. In fact, we see her views shift as she interacts with The Steward. And as Trevor said, maybe The Steward has seen her before. The series stretches all the way back to 500 B.C. and then moves forward to today, so we'll be filled in on just how many times he's run across her in the past."

Does the presence of a being like Kestus change how the Steward views his role? "I think Kestus brings *everything* into question for The Steward," Roth said. "I'm not sure how much of this will be discussed right out in the open and how much will be filled in by the readers' imaginations, but it's all in there. Like all of us, The Steward has doubts about the path he has chosen for himself. At the same time, he has a tremendous faith and a lot invested in what he believes to be his purpose. I guess the question is, 'What wins out?'"

The concept behind *Days Missing* and *Kestus* has incredible

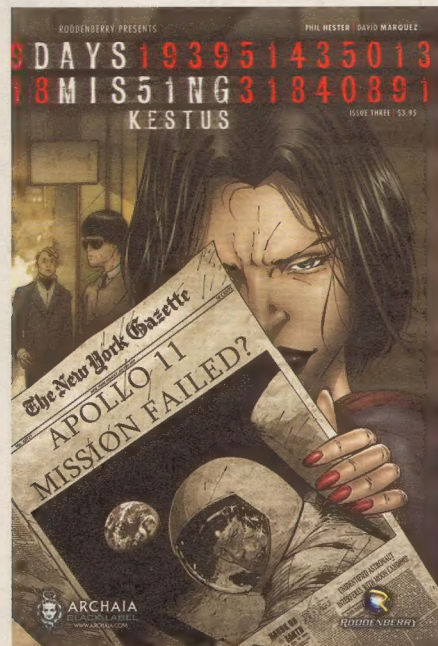
treat," Marquez said. "In addition to being one of the nicest guys in the business, his experience as an artist really comes through when reading his scripts. While he often asks a lot of me as an artist, it's clear that he understands what it takes to make these ambitious stories work and is able to communicate that in a way that keeps it all very manageable. He also has a keen sense of what is just plain fun to draw, and gives me all kinds of great stuff to play with in this book."

Days Missing: Kestus is Marquez's second project for Archaia, who made his comics debut with the graphic novel *Syndrome*. "Syndrome" was definitely my first major comics project, and a blast to work on," Marquez said. "I've been an avid comics reader since elementary school, and have dreamed of drawing comics ever since."

"My first professional art gig, though, was as an animator on Warner Independent's feature film *A Scanner Darkly*, made here in Austin where I had been studying political science at the University of Texas with plans of either teaching or going on to grad school. Once

building a comics portfolio and landing a few

Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!



small press and anthology projects. I've only recently started drawing comics full time, first with *Syndrome* and now *Days Missing*, and it's a complete dream come true."

Is a book with such an epic scope particularly challenging artistically? "Well, *Syndrome* was a challenging project in its own right, having to nail a comic with strong indie sensibilities in a fairly mainstream art style," Marquez said. "*Days Missing: Kestus*, on the other hand, is definitely a story on a much grander scale, but also—perhaps because of the scale—one that lends itself much more to mainstream storytelling techniques. I also feel that I've grown a lot as an artist since the first pages of *Syndrome*, and *Days Missing* provides a great opportunity to spread my wings a bit. So, yes, it's a challenge, but a welcome one."



Since the late Gene Roddenberry and Roddenberry Productions have quite an impressive record in film, television, and videogames, is it possible that *Days Missing* might expand into these media in the future? "I can't confirm anything on this one right now," Roth said. "People in the entertainment industry who have read *Volume One* have really taken to it and seem to agree it could go further. Nothing pleases us more than to have created something potent enough to break through into other media."

"Still, until anything shapes up concretely, and as long as we are developing *Days Missing* for comics, our mission remains simple: bring people a substantive science fiction adventure, including accessible characters and relevant issues, engaging extraordinary creators, and inventive storytelling through the amazing vehicles of comics and graphic novels. If we continue to do that, the sky's the limit on the rest!"

Days Missing: Kestus #1, a \$3.95 comic created by Trevor Roth, written by Phil Hester, and illustrated by David Marquez, is slated for late September release. To see more art, visit <http://csnsider.com/spotlight.htm>

by Cliff Biggers

COMIC SHOP NEWS
Published weekly
since 1987 by Comic Shop News, Inc.
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COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

Produced by Comic Shop News
in cooperation with newsarama.com

Harvey Winners Announced

The 2010 Harvey Awards, recognizing outstanding work published in 2009, were presented in late August at the Baltimore Comic Con. These are the only industry awards chosen by comics professionals rather than fans and/or readers. This year's winners were:

- **Best Writer** - Robert Kirkman, *The Walking Dead* (Image Comics)
- **Best Artist** - Robert Crumb, *Book of Genesis* (W.W. Norton)
- **Best Cartoonist** - Darwyn Cooke, *Richard Stark's Parker: The Hunter* (IDW Publishing)
- **Best Letterer** - David Mazzucchelli, *Asterios Polyp* (Pantheon)
- **Best Inker** - Klaus Janson, *Amazing Spider-Man* (Marvel)
- **Best Colorist** - Laura Martin, *The Rocketeer: The Complete Adventures* (IDW Publishing)
- **Best Cover Artist** - Mike Mignola, *Hellboy: The Bride of Hell* (Dark Horse)
- **Best New Talent** - Rob Guillory, *Chew* (Image Comics)
- **Best New Series** - *Chew* (Image Comics)
- **Best Continuing or Limited Series** - *The Walking Dead* (Image Comics)
- **Best Original Graphic Publication for Younger Readers** - *The Muppet Show Comic Book* (Boom Studios)
- **Best Anthology** - *Wednesday Comics* (DC Comics)
- **Best Original Graphic Album** - *Asterios Polyp*, by David Mazzucchelli (Pantheon)
- **Best Previously Published Graphic Album** - *Mice Templar Vol. 1*, by Bryan J.L. Glass & Michael Avon Oeming (Image Comics)
- **Best Syndicated Strip or Panel** - *Mutts*, by Patrick McDonnell (King Features Syndicate)
- **Best Domestic Reprint Project** - *The Rocketeer: The Complete Adventures*, by Dave Stevens; edited by Scott Dunbier (IDW Publishing)
- **Best American Edition of Foreign Material** - *The Art of Osamu Tezuka: God of Manga*, by Helen McCarthy (Abrams)

ComicArts)

- **Best Online Comics Work** - *PvP*, by Scott Kurtz
- **Special Award for Humor in Comics** - *Bryan Lee O'Malley, Scott Pilgrim Vol. 5* (Oni Press)
- **Special Award for Excellence in Presentation** - *The Rocketeer: The Complete Adventures*, by Dave Stevens; edited by Scott Dunbier (IDW Publishing)
- **Best Biographic, Historical or Journalistic Presentation** - *Art of Harvey Kurtzman: The Mad Genius of Comics*, by Denis Kitchen & Paul Buhle (Abrams ComicArts)
- **Best Single Issue or Story** - *Asterios Polyp*, by David Mazzucchelli (Pantheon)

Also presented were two special awards:
• **The Dick Giordano Humanitarian of the Year Award** - Tim Sale and Jerry Robinson,
• **Hero Initiative Lifetime Achievement Award** - Walt Simonson.

Kev In at Archie

Earlier this month, readers met Kevin Keller in the pages of *Veronica* #202 by Dan Parent & Rich Koslowski. (And in case you've been totally out of the loop for the past couple of months, Kevin is Riverdale's first openly gay teen.) Writer/artist Dan Parent told CSN how Kevin came about.

"We'd been discussing new characters in editorial meetings," Parent said. "Then I came up with the idea of Veronica chasing after a gay guy, totally oblivious to the fact. We thought it was funny, and that Riverdale was ready for Kevin."

"We had great editorial input from Victor Gorelick and Mike Pellerito, who were totally on board with the idea. And the story wouldn't have moved forward without Jon Goldwater, so kudos to him too!"

Archie, Veronica, Jughead, and the rest of the Riverdale are accepting of Kevin as a gay teen, but not all teenagers are lucky enough to find all classmates so accepting and understanding. Taunting and even derision is something that many gay teens have to deal with in school; was there any thought to exploring those problems, or did that seem a bit too harsh for Riverdale?

"Riverdale is a place to

escape to," Parent said. "It's a fantasy place where we all want to live. We didn't want to get too heavy with the storyline. I think showing that Riverdale is an accepting and diverse community speaks a thousand words."

Kevin hits it off quite well with Jughead, one of the first to learn that Kevin is gay. Ironically, there has been some speculation over the years that Jughead himself might be gay; was there ever any consideration of developing that angle rather than introducing a new character? Is the friendship of Kevin and Jughead any indicator that there might be some merit to the speculation, or is Jughead simply making another friend?

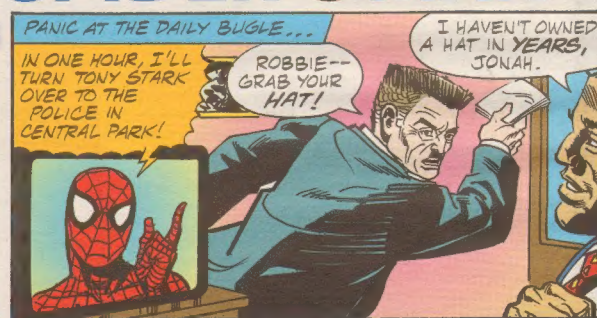


"No, Jughead isn't gay," Parent said, "despite all the fan speculation out there. He seems to have a strong gay following, too! But no, he's straight—he's just more into cheeseburgers! And Kevin and Jughead become good friends, because they have a lot in common. But not that much in common, if you get my drift!"

Veronica #202's "Isn't It Bromantic?" is the latest of many stories to cast Jughead as

SPIDER-MAN

BY STAN LEE & LARRY LIEBER



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Comic Shop News

the romance-less "neutral observer" (almost a Riverdale version of Philinte from *Moliere's* "The Misanthrope"). Will that continue indefinitely, or will Jughead become more romantically focused somewhere down the line? "Every once in a while we'll throw some romance Jughead's way, but I think he works much better as the neutral observer," Parent said. "With every character trying to date other characters all the time, it's nice to see Jughead stand out. I think it makes him that much cooler!"

Is Kevin going to become a part of the core Riverdale gang, or will he be an irregularly-appearing member of the supporting cast, like Moose or Midge or Dilton? "Well, it's tough to break into that top five, but I'd like to see him as a strong supporting player, like Cheryl Blossom or Moose," Parent said. "Of course, reader reaction will dictate a lot of that. But I've got plans for him! He's a great addition to Riverdale, and you'll definitely be seeing a lot more of him!"

Veronica #202, a \$2.99 comic, is currently in comic shops.

CSNsider

• Sean Chen has been tapped to fill in for Pete Woods as artist of *Action Comics* #893, slated for release on 9/29.

• DC is offering a free copy of *Telara Chronicles* #0, featuring a 22-page story by Ricard Sanchez & Pop Mhan as well as character profiles, with the purchase of *Telara Chronicles* #1, as well as a beta key card, featuring a code that allows advance play of the game.

• Marvel has added a previously-unannounced Sean Phillips 1-for-10 variant cover for *Incognito: Bad Influences* #1 (JUL108169), in stores 10/6.

• Patrick Zircher is supplying the art for a very limited variant of *Carnage* #1 (JUL108156); check with the folks at your friendly neighborhood comic shop for information on price and availability.

• Marvel is adding a 1-for-10 *Kick-Ass 2: Balls to the Wall* #1 Movie Variant (JUN108147); look for it in stores on 10/6.

• Travel Foreman is supplying the art for a previously-unannounced 1-for-10 variant of *Loki* #1 (JUN108157), slated for 10/6 release.

• J. Scott Campbell will illustrate the previously-unannounced, very limited variant of *Uncanny X-Force* #1 (JUL108025); ask the folks at your friendly neighborhood comic shop for info on price and availability.

• Campbell is also the artist for the very limited variant cover version of *Ultimate Comics Thor* #1; again, ask the folks at your friendly neighborhood comic shop for info on price and availability.

Back to Press

• *Avengers* #4 2nd Printing (JUL108170), featuring a variant cover by John Romita Jr., in stores 10/6.

• *Avengers: The Children's Crusade* #2 2nd Printing (JUL108171), featuring a variant cover by Jim Cheung, in stores 10/6.

• *Namor: The First Mutant* #1 2nd Printing

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(JUL108172), featuring a variant cover by Jae Lee, in stores 10/6.

• *Secret Avengers* #3 2nd Printing (JUL108173), featuring a variant cover by Mike Deodato, in stores 10/6.

• *Secret Avengers* #4 2nd Printing (JUL108174), fea-



turing a variant cover by Mike Deodato, in stores 10/6.

• *Shadowland* #3 2nd Printing (JUL108175), featuring a variant cover by Billy Tan, in stores 10/6.



COVER BY ALEX ROSS

COVER BY JELENA KEVIC-DJURDJEVIC

COVER BY J. SCOTT CAMPBELL

COVER BY JOE MADUREIRA

RARE VARIANT COVER BY ALEX ROSS

VAMPIRELLA[®]

DYNAMITE[®] 1

VAMPIRELLA #1 • 40 PAGES • IN STORES NOVEMBER 2010

written by ERIC TRAUTMANN art by WAGNER REIS

covers by J. SCOTT CAMPBELL, JOE MADUREIRA, ALEX ROSS & JELENA KEVIC-DJURDJEVIC

rare original art variant cover by ALEX ROSS

bonus feature: rare story by JEPH LOEB & TIM SALE

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BATMAN RETURN OF BRUCE WAYNE #6 (OF 6)

Grant Morrison (W); Lee Garbett (A)
(DC JUL100144 \$4.99)

BATMAN: THE RETURN #1

Grant Morrison (W); David Finch (A)
(DC AUG100143 \$4.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME— BATGIRL #1

Bryan Q. Miller (W); Pere Perez (A)
(DC AUG100137 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME— BATMAN & ROBIN #1

Fabian Nicieza (W); Cliff Richards (A)
(DC AUG100135 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME— CATWOMAN #1

Derek Fridolfs (W); Peter Nguyen (A)
(DC AUG100139 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME—COMMIS- SIONER GORDON #1

Adam Beechen (W); Szymon Kudranski (A)
(DC AUG100140 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME—ORACLE #1

Marc Andreyko (W); Agustín Padilla (A)
(DC AUG100141 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME— OUTSIDERS #1

Mike Barr (W)
(DC AUG100138 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME— RAS AL GHUL #1

Fabian Nicieza (W)
(DC AUG100142 \$2.99)

BRUCE WAYNE: THE ROAD HOME— RED ROBIN #1

Fabian Nicieza (W); Ramon Bachs & John Lucas (A)
(DC AUG100136 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Bruce Wayne's time-travelling odyssey brings him ever closer to his home, culminating in his long-awaited return to Gotham City. Now, how will those who were closest to him cope with his return? What changes implemented during his absence will continue, and what changes will be reversed? And how does Bruce see his role in the DCU in light of his experiences?



CSN TOP COMICS: OCTOBER

Why Should You Care?

Grant Morrison continues to rewrite Bat-history—and as the DCU adjusts to the return of one of its flagship heroes, writers Fabian Nicieza, Bryan Q. Miller, Adam Beechen, Marc Andreyko, Derek Fridolfs, & Mike Barr reveal how his return affects those who knew and loved Bruce prior to his "demise" ... as well as one who was his sworn enemy. It's the beginning of one of the most surprising chapters in Bat-history, and you won't want to miss it!



ACTION COMICS #894

Paul Cornell (W); Pete Woods (A)
(DC AUG100158 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Lex has a first-hand opportunity to learn the true meaning of Death—and his instructor is none other than Death herself, the diminutive member of the Endless!

Why Should You Care?

One of Neil Gaiman's premiere creations makes her DCU story debut in this offbeat tale. Oh, and there's another installment of Nick Spencer's Jimmy Olsen co-feature as well—noteworthy on its own, but overshadowed by Death's history-making guest appearance.



CHAOS WAR #1 (OF 5)

Greg Pak & Fred Van Lente (W); Khoi Pham (A)
(Marvel AUG100581 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

The Chaos King decides that there's no better time to attack the Earth—but he hadn't counted on an opposing army of heroes led by the newly returned Hercules!

Why Should You Care?

It's like *Blackest Night* in the Marvelverse, complete with resurrected dead heroes, including members of Alpha Flight and the Avengers as well as the aforementioned mythological hero of song and story!

CHARLES BURNS X'ED OUT GN

Charles Burns (W/A)
(Pantheon AUG101112 \$19.95)

What's the Scoop?

What starts out as a strange night becomes positively surreal as a man is visited by a beloved cat who died years before... and then things get really bizarre.

Why Should You Care?

Charles Burns, the creator of *Black Hole* (one of the most disturbing horror tales this side of H.P. Lovecraft), is back with this unforgettable magical fantasy.

INCOGNITO: BAD INFLUENCES #1

Ed Brubaker (W); Sean Phillips (A)
(Marvel JUL100652 \$3.50)

What's the Scoop?

He thought his life of crime was over when he went into witness protection... but it turns out that his new bosses want to push him right back into the dark world he thought he'd left behind him!

Why Should You Care?

Ed Brubaker & Sean Phillips' original tale of a supervillain in witness protection, which surpassed even their superb noir-styled *Criminal* series, left us hoping for a sequel—and at last, here it is!



JIM BUTCHER'S DRESDEN FILES: FOOL MOON #1

Jim Butcher & Mark Powers (W); Brett Booth (A)
(Dynamite AUG100955 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Harry Dresden's top client no longer trusts him. The cops think he's involved with a Chicago mobster. The enigmatic White Council views him with suspicion. And now a pack of werewolves are terrorizing the Windy City. But of course, there's more going on here than meets the eye—and it's Harry's job to figure it all out!

Why Should You Care?

Jim Butcher's superb supernatural detective series continues with this adaptation of the second Harry Dresden novel—and artist par excellence Brett Booth is on hand to supply the visuals!

KNIGHT & SQUIRE #1 (OF 6)

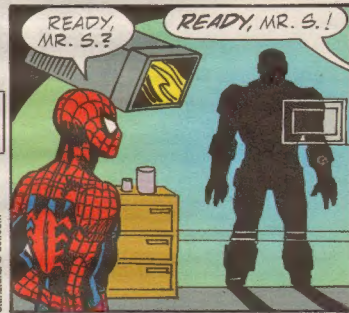
Paul Cornell (W); Jimmy Broxton (A)
(DC AUG100146 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

London's Dynamic Duo get their moment in the spotlight in this six-part limited series that begins in a secret bar in the city where the peace between superheroes and supervillains is kept magically within the bar's walls—until the magic goes away, leaving a building full of angry super good guys and bad guys ready to even the score...

Why Should You Care?

Paul Cornell does the honors on this series that expands on Grant Morrison's delightful reinterpretation of the British Batman first introduced way back in *Batman* #62 in 1950.





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— Warren Ellis, *Transmetropolitan*

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ISSUE #1



Written by
PHIL HESTER

(*Days Missing* Vol. 1, *The Darkness*)

Illustrated by
DAVID MARQUEZ
(*Syndrome*)

Featuring Covers by
ALEX ROSS
and a host of top industry talent!

ISSUE #2



Cover by
JORGE MOLINA

ISSUE #3



Cover by
RYAN BENJAMIN

ISSUE #4



Cover by
DAVID MACK

Issue One premieres **September 2010**
in comic shops everywhere!

Hardcover Collection of the complete
series in comic shops **April 2011!**

Visit DaysMissing.com for news, previews and videos!



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RICHARD STARK'S PARKER THE OUTFIT HC

Darwyn Cooke (W/A)
(IDW AUG100301 \$24.99)

What's the Scoop?

After settling the score with those who betrayed him and recovering the syndicate money from which he was cheated, Parker is enjoying the high life. The good times aren't destined to last for long, though, now that someone has told the Outfit where they can find him...

Why Should You Care?

Darwyn Cooke is back with a new Parker graphic novel—and when you consider the number of award nominations the first book garnered, you know he has to be doing something right!

SIXSMITHS GN VOL 1

Jason Franks (W); J. Marc Schmidt (A)
(Amaze Ink AUG100733 \$12.95)

What's the Scoop?

Apparently even Satanists aren't immune to the effects of the recession, as the Sixsmith family is forced to move to the suburbs, where Ralf has a new job, Cain and Lilith have to adjust to the public school system, Jezzebel is having a personal crisis, and it's up to Annie to keep them all sane and under budget.

Why Should You Care?

Jason Franks & J. Marc Schmidt introduced this offbeat family in the clever *Sixsmiths* oneshot from Slave Labor, and this graphic novel continues the misadventures of Beelzebub-worshippers in the 'burbs.

STAN LEE'S SOLDIER ZERO #1

Paul Cornell (W); Javier Pina (A)
(Boom AUG100871 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

A wheelchair-bound college student is infected by an alien parasite—but rather than making him sick, this parasite transforms him into a superhuman soldier ready to defend Earth from invading forces in a galactic war.

Why Should You Care?

Stan Lee, the leading force of the Marvel Age of Comics, launches a new line of superhero creations at Boom Studios—and he's joining with top talent like Paul Cornell and Mark Waid to transform those concepts into comic book reality.

STAR WARS: KNIGHT ERRANT—AFLAME #1

John Jackson Miller (W); Federico D'Allochio (A)
(Dark Horse AUG100011 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

More than one thousand years before Luke Skywalker, a newly knighted Jedi on her first mission joins a band of Jedi volunteers traveling deep behind enemy lines, with no support from the Republic and little chance of survival.

Why Should You Care?

John Jackson Miller is not only writing the comic book debut of Jedi knight Kerra Holt, he's also writing a *Knights of the Old Republic* novel starring the same character—and that's going to translate to a huge audience for this new limited series!

SUPERIOR #1 (OF 6)

Mark Millar (W); Leinil Francis Yu (A)
(Icon/Marvel AUG100662 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

A former athlete struggles to adjust to life with multiple sclerosis, which has deprived him of the use of his legs—then Superior enters his life.

Why Should You Care?

Mark Millar & Leinil Francis Yu present the ultimate escape from reality in this quirky superhero limited series.

SUPERMAN EARTH ONE HC 1

J. Michael Straczynski (W); Shane Davis (A)
(DC JUN100127 \$19.99)

What's the Scoop?

How would the familiar legend of Superman differ if the last son of Krypton were introduced today for the very first time? Find out in this original graphic novel that reintroduces Superman for the first time!

Why Should You Care?

J. Michael Straczynski, who put the man back in Superman, making it one of the most compelling reads on the comic shop racks, offers a very different take on the Man of Steel in this original novel set in a world without superheroes... until now!



TINY TITANS/LITTLE ARCHIE #1 (OF 3)

Art Baltazar & Franco (W); Art Baltazar (A)
(DC AUG100216 \$2.99)

What's the Scoop?

Apparently Riverdale and Sidekick City are two different 'burbs of the same downtown—but neither the Riverdale gang nor the Tiny Titans knew it until now!

Why Should You Care?

It's the crossover that absolutely no one expected—but with Art Baltazar & Franco doing the honors, you know it's going to be as clever and charming as *Tiny Titans* (and we'll take new adventures of Little Archie and crew any time we can get them).

TUROK SON OF STONE #1

Jim Shooter (W); Eduardo Francisco (A)
(Dark Horse AUG100019 \$3.50)

What's the Scoop?

After rescuing the son of a Chiricahua chief from an Aztec attack, Turok and the young Andar are swept away to a strange world where dinosaurs still roam the earth. But as it turns out, dinosaurs are far from the only worries that Turok and Andar have to deal with in this strange realm...

Why Should You Care?

Jim Shooter continues his reboot of the Cold Key Universe for the second time with this new series that gets back to Turok's roots. (Mercifully, it has nothing in common with the ill-conceived Valiant reboot of the 1990s!...)

ULTIMATE COMICS THOR #1 (OF 4)

Jonathan Hickman (W); Carlos Pacheco (A)
(Marvel AUG100550 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Ragnarok approaches, and Asgard is threatened. But what will become of Thor and the Warriors Three?... And what does Baron Zemo have to do with it all?

Why Should You Care?

Jonathan Hickman joins with all-star artist Carlos Pacheco to present Thor's hitherto-unrevealed Ultimate origin.



UNCANNY X-FORCE #1

Rick Remender (W); Jerome Opena (A)
(Marvel AUG100524 \$3.99)

What's the Scoop?

Wolverine promised Cyclops that X-Force would disband... but apparently he had his claws crossed! Now he's assembled Archangel, Fantomex, Deadpool, and Psylocke to prevent the resurrected En Sabah Nur from creating an Age of Apocalypse.

Why Should You Care?

Rick Remender stresses the "force" in X-Force with this high-impact series and its Age of Apocalypse kickoff saga.

UNTOLD TALES OF BLACKEST NIGHT #1 (BRIGHTEST DAY)

Geoff Johns, Peter Tomasi, J.T. Krul, & Ethan Van Sciver (W); Ivan Reis, Ethan Van Sciver, Jay Fabok, & others (A)
(DC AUG100115 \$4.99)

What's the Scoop?

Think you know everything that happened during *Blackest Night*? Think again! Sinestro Corps member Lyssa Drak acts as a guide to the untold horrors that occurred during this saga, presenting tales starring Ragman, Scarecrow, Donna Troy, and Animal Man.

Why Should You Care?

Geoff Johns, Peter Tomasi, and others revisit the best-selling saga of the past year in this extra-length oneshot.

WARLORD OF MARS #1

Arvid Nelson (W); Stephen Sadowski (A)
(Dynamite AUG100918 \$1.00)

What's the Scoop?

A former cavalry officer finds himself transported to Mars, where he soon meets the intrepid Tars Tarkas and the lovely princess Dejah Thoris as the most incredible adventure in two worlds begins.

Why Should You Care?

Arvid Nelson & Stephen Sadowski kick off the adaptation of the most famous sword-and-planet adventure in literary history, bringing Edgar Rice Burroughs' *A Princess of Mars* to comics almost a century after its first publication.

Check 'Em Out: Books You Should Be Reading

ALAN MOORE NEONOMICRON #3 (OF 4)

(Avatar AUG100812 \$3.99)

Alan Moore continues his provocative Lovecraftian horror tale that edges over the borders between perception and reality.

BATMAN: HIDDEN TREASURES #1

(DC AUG100150 \$4.99)

This oneshot features a previously unpublished Ron Frenz Batman tale, along with a classic Wrightson reprint featuring Batman and Swamp Thing.

BEASTS OF BURDEN/HELLBOY ONE SHOT

(Dark Horse AUG100025 \$3.50)

Mike Mignola & Jill Thompson join forces for this distinctive crossover tale that unites an occult-investigating team of dogs (and one cat) with the World's Greatest Paranormal Detective.

BELA LUGOSI'S TALES FROM GRAVE #1

(Monstersverse AUG101080 \$4.99)

Kerry Gammill and crew present an anthology of stories in the classic horror tradition, hosted by horror film icon Bela Lugosi.

BOONDOCK SAINTS: HEAD OF THE SNAKE #1 (OF 2)

(12 Gauge AUG101165 \$3.99)

A horrible "accidental" death prods Noah & Louie to choose a problematic target as they continue to make serious waves in New York's 1960s underground crime world. If you like the films, you'll love the comics!

BRIGHTEST DAY #11

(DC AUG100111 \$2.99)

BRIGHTEST DAY #12

(DC AUG100113 \$2.99)

The Black Lanterns return as the *Brightest Day* saga takes some unexpected twists. This issue also presents the origin of the new Aquagard, the battle between Aquaman and Black Manta, and the bizarre journey of Jason Rusch and Ronnie Raymond as they delve into the inner workings of the Firestorm matrix.

BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER #37

(Dark Horse AUG100038 \$2.99)

Joss Whedon writes the series finale as Spike and Buffy are finally reunited! Turns out that Spike has discovered the source of Buffy's problems... and it's not Angel!...

EMITOWN TP

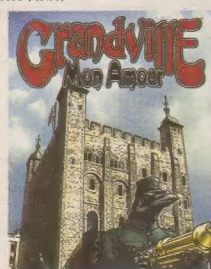
(Image AUG100439 \$19.99)

Emi Lenox offers a clever look at her world in this insightful, engagingly personal collection of webcomics.

GRANDVILLE MON AMOUR HC

(Dark Horse JUN100035 \$19.99)

Set three weeks after the finale of *Grandville*, Bryan Talbot's second volume explores an alternate art-nouveau world populated by intelligent animals, a human underclass, robot automatons, and advanced steam technology that power everything from hansom cabs to iron flying machines.



HERO COMPLEX GN

(Kickstart AUG101061 \$14.99)

Captain Supreme has strength, speed, an unabashedly noble heart - but not the lucrative sponsorships and merchandising deals the other superheroes have. And that makes all the difference...



LOUIS: NIGHT SALAD HC
(Metaphrog AUG101077 \$14.99)
Metaphrog return with a brand new tale chronicling Louis' poignant quest for a cure to save his friend.

TOP COW FIRST LOOK TP
(Top Cow/Image AUG100519 \$4.99)
Lots of publishers have offered bargain-priced trade paperbacks presenting the first issues of established and popular series—but Top Cow goes one step further and presents six never-before-seen first issues of upcoming series bound in a single collection.

VERTIGO RESURRECTED #1
(Vertigo/DC AUG100190 \$7.99)
"Shoot," Warren Ellis's controversial but never published story involving schoolyard killings leads this mega-sized special.



VICTORIAN UNDEAD SPECIAL #1
(WildStorm/DC AUG100240 \$4.99)
A rash of murders leads Holmes and Watson to believe that a zombie might have survived the quarantine and the hunt begins... leading them to the doorstep of one Dr. Jekyll!

Collected Cool: October's Best Reprint Volumes

40: A DOONESBURY RETROSPECTIVE HC
(Andrews & McMeel JUL101319 \$100.00)
This deluxe collection highlights collection includes more than 1800 strips from Doonesbury's 40-year history.

ABSOLUTE ALL STAR SUPERMAN HC
(DC MAR100236 \$99.99)
Oversized slipcased edition of the Grant Morrison-Frank Quitely saga, complete with sketches, developmental pages, and more.

ARCHIE: SEVEN DECADES OF AMERICA'S FAVORITE TEENAGERS HC
(IDW AUG100382 \$49.99)
A behind the scenes look at the creation of Archie, his girlfriends and his pals.

BLOOM COUNTY COMPLETE LIBRARY HC VOL 3
(IDW AUG100373 \$39.99)
Collecting every strip from July '84 through February '86, along with commentary by Berkeley Breathed and more.

MAD GREATEST ARTISTS: SERGIO ARAGONES HC
(Running Press JUN101255 \$29.95)
A "greatest hits" collection of one of Mad's most popular and prolific artists, hand-picked by the artist and featuring his greatest work from his debut in 1963 to the present.

Comic Shop News

MARVEL MASTERWORKS ATLAS ERA JOURNEY INTO MYSTERY HC VOL 3
(Marvel MAY100660 \$59.99)
Collecting the hard-to-find mid-1950s Journey Into Mystery #s 21-30, featuring rarely seen horror and fantasy tales from the pre-Kirby Atlas era.

PEANUTS COLLECTED TREASURES: MOST BELOVED COMIC STRIPS HC
(Little Brown and Company AUG101289 \$35.00)
This lavishly illustrated oversized volume celebrates the 60th anniversary of the world's most beloved comic strip characters.

FYI: Must-Have Additions to Your Reference Library

75 YEARS OF DC COMICS HC
(Taschen AUG101268 \$200.00)
Paul Levitz presents the most insightful, image-packed history of DC ever presented. 750+ oversized pages, more than two thousand images—this is the ultimate insider's look at the most influential comics publisher in history.

ALTER EGO #97
(TwoMorrows AUG101270 \$7.95)
Everyone knows about EC—but who else was scaring comic book readers in the early 1950s? Find out in this issue spotlighting the non-EC horror comics of the era.

GENIUS ISOLATED: THE LIFE & ART OF ALEX TOTH HC
(IDW AUG100377 \$59.99)
This biography by Dean Mullaney & Bruce Camwell also includes rarely seen art, interviews, and more.

MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT: 12 ESSAYS ON WATCHMEN SC
(Sequoia AUG101288 \$19.95)
This original essay collection analyzes Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons' seminal graphic novel.

OVERSTREET HALL OF FAME ONE SHOT
(Genstone AUG101029 \$6.95)
The folks behind the field's flagship price guide spotlight the creative talents who have made great contributions to the comic book arts.

Hot Commodities: October's Hottest Merchandising & Collectibles

BATMAN BLACK & WHITE STATUE
(DC Direct MAR100329 \$80.00)
"Spidey" Adams sculpts this statue of Kirk Langstrom, based on the art of his father, Neal Adams.

COVER GIRLS OF THE DCU POKER SET
(DC Direct MAR100355 \$199.00)
Pick up this distinctive poker set and let the chips fall where they may—and they're guaranteed to get plenty of attention, since the set features art by Adam Hughes. The set includes two standard 54-card decks featuring a mix of classic cover art and original Hughes images created for this set, along with 300 11.5 gram clay poker chips in a deluxe locked metal carrying case.



DCU ORIGINS SERIES 2 GREEN LANTERN 2 PACK ACTION FIGURE
(DC Direct FEB100293 \$36.00)

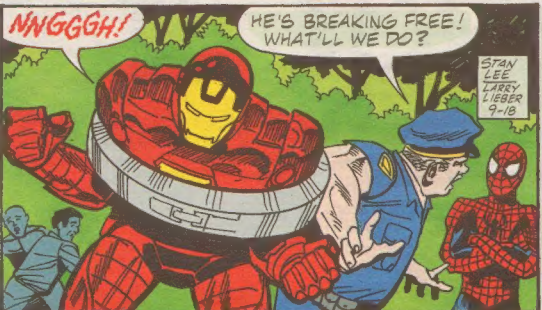
DCU ORIGINS SERIES 2 SUPERMAN 2 PACK ACTION FIGURE
(DC Direct FEB100295 \$36.00)

DCU ORIGINS SERIES 2 THE FLASH 2 PACK ACTION FIGURE
(DC Direct FEB100296 \$36.00)

DCU ORIGINS SERIES 2 WONDER WOMAN 2 PACK ACTION FIGURE
(DC Direct FEB100294 \$36.00)
Each set includes two full-sized figures—one based on art from the character's early appearances and the other based on art from the modern era.

DR. DOOM CLASSIC STATUE
(Bowen JUL101691 \$215.00)
A striking 12" tall sculpture based on the classic Silver Age Doctor Doom originally depicted by Jack Kirby.

JLA TROPHY ROOM WONDER WOMAN TIARA BRACELETS LASSO
(DC Direct FEB100311 \$325.00)
Features the Amazon warrior's gear—the tiara, two gauntlet bracelets, and the Lasso of Truth.



Follow Spider-Man every week in Comic Shop News!